

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A transseptal needle and other structures and methods may include an outer conduit, for example one that may be subject to skiving, and a needle or other sharp structure within the outer conduit. A material no softer than the needle is positioned between the needle and the outer conduit so that the needle does not skive the inside surface of the outer conduit when the needle and outer conduit move relative to each other.